

## Elkton United Methodist Church

# The Beacon



## From the Pastor

Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

One day, a few weeks ago, I went to my mailbox at home and was surprised to find a package there. I was thrilled to discover it was from Cathy Gohlke, and it was an advanced copy of her latest book, The Medallion. It was ironic that I was writing a sermon on temptation at the same time, because my biggest temptation was to stop everything and read Cathy's book from cover to cover. I didn't, but a little while later, I was able to read it, and you'll not be surprised to hear that it was absolutely wonderful. (I'm sure we'll have her at church for a book signing when it's published!)

Not long after that, I received an invitation in the mail to attend Charlotte Mehosky's art show at the Cecil County Arts Council, and not long after that, I sat at a meeting and watched one of our members work her magic on a beautiful quilt she was making for a new baby. All of this is to say, oh, what a gifted congregation we have. So many people around us have incredible gifts which they share so freely and willingly with others.

We couldn't be the church we are and do the things we do without all of you sharing your gifts. I am so grateful that you are not hiding your lights under bushel baskets (as the scripture says), but using them instead for the kingdom of God! I am so blessed to be in ministry with all of you, and look forward to seeing what other gifts show up in the days and months ahead!



### **MAY 2019**

#### What's Inside:

Missions	. 2
Fellowship and Stewardship	.3
Evangelism/Membership	. 4
<b>Education News</b>	. 5
Music and Worship	. 6
Finance	.7
Church News	. 8
Birthdays and Anniversaries	.9
Calendar	10

## **MISSIONS**

"He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy." Proverbs 14:21

#### **Mission Team Update**

Submitted by Mike Foster

Below is important MISSION TRIP information for those interested as well as other important and local efforts.

- In line with the Cecil County Pregnancy Center's Tea fundraising event at the end of April, we will be conducting a "baby shower" for donations to be given to the center. The plan is to collect donations by Mother's Day this year, May 12<sup>th</sup>. More details and a wish list will be forthcoming.
- Do not forget Compassion Sunday is coming in early May.
- Last year was our first year participating with the Elkton Community Kitchen lunch meal that is served on a Friday once a month at Elkton Presbyterian Church. For this year, we are looking for and need a volunteer to be "Provider Liaison" to decide the menu and gather other volunteers (about 8-10) to prepare the meal and serve the meal. We are committed to only 2 times a year in this effort. It is a worthwhile community mission to be involved with the ECK and I know we will not let them down. Anyone interested please see Mike Foster.
- As mentioned in previous newsletters, we have two mission trips scheduled for the summer months. It is important that all of us have a "basic" understanding of what it takes when on such a mission. We now have that opportunity to take this needed training. Karin Tunnell, pastor of Grace UMC located in Millsboro DE, has kindly agreed to conduct such a training at our church. The event is scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am 1:00 pm. To all those who plan to participate in these trips AND for those who contemplate attending a future mission trip AND for those parents who have young adults and their friends participating, you are ENCOURAGED to mark this on your calendar and attend. Bring a bag lunch. The formal name for such training is VIM (Volunteers in Mission) training. VIM is a grassroots movement within the United Methodist Church designed to assist those interested in mission service. We will have attendees from other churches as well, so it would be wonderful to have a good showing from EUMC. Please see Joe Tanner or Mike Foster to place your name on the list of attendees.

Thanks and God Bless

#### **GOING AWAY?**

If you are, don't forget that you can watch our worship services via You Tube. Videos of Sunday morning services are generally put online no later than about 9 pm that same evening. It's a great way to stay connected when you're away! To watch a service, simply go to our church website, elktonumc.org, click on sermons in the left-hand column, then click on "You Tube" videos, click on the service you want to see, and you're all set!



### FELLOWSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though god were making his appeal through us" II Corinthians

#### **Stewardship Committee**

Submitted by Ellen and Rich Gruebel, Committee Co-Chairpersons

Exodus 20:15 "He who attends the fig tree will eat its fruit, and he who cares for his master will be honored."

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee! We are happy to have had a successful Earth Day Sunday and hope all enjoyed our video about recycling and that our Sunday school classes enjoyed their books and sticker projects! We're working on our 5K walk / run in support of research for ALS on September 28<sup>th</sup>. We also look forward to offering a little bit "different" Stewardship Fair in October. More to come in future newsletters! Enjoy spring and all God's blessings!

"Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense." - Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803 - 1882



### Monthly Men's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel

All men of the church are invited to take part in the Monthly Men's Breakfast. It takes place the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 am at Cracker Barrel. This month's breakfast will take place on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year's session of the Peninsula Delaware Annual Conference will take place from Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington. Clergy and lay delegates from all of the churches in our conference (which is comprised of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and the State of Delaware) will gather to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and set goals and budgets for the years ahead. Heidi Gaultney and Mike Schmook will represent Elkton UMC as the Lay Delegates, and Pastors Bunnell and Graham will be attending as Clergy Delegates. All sessions of the conference are open to the public, so if you're interested, why not stop by and experience Annual Conference?



**Like Us on Facebook!** Don't forget that our church has a Facebook page, so check it out and like us! That helps spread the word to others of all the good things going on in our church, and hopefully entice them to come and check us out!

## **EVANGELISM**

"He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy." Proverbs 14:21

Hello from the Evangelism Committee,

Our next big event is Elkton's Memorial Day Parade, being held on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Please come to the church parking lot at 8:30 am to help decorate. If you want to walk with us, meet at Howard Street parking at 9:30, and don't forget to wear red, white and blue. It's a lot of fun and a great way to share our ministry with the community.



We have 5 more members ready to attend our next new member class. If you know a friend or family member that would like to attend the new member class, please tell them about the next class being held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm.

We have invited a praise band, Wholly Grounds, to join us for worship on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you love music, please come and enjoy Wholly Grounds.

That's it for now, stay tuned, there are more events on the horizon.

Your Friend in Christ, Linda Meffley

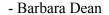
#### INTERESTED IN JOINING ELKTON UMC?

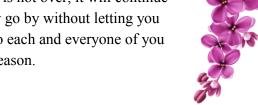
Then you're invited to take part in the next New Member Orientation Class which will be held on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm in Room 1. During the class, you'll learn about United Methodism, about Elkton UMC in particular, and about what it means to be a member of the church and a disciple of Christ. Lunch will be served and childcare is available, if needed. To take part in the class, sign up by sending an email to eumc@comcast.net or calling the church office at 410-398-0933.





I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, texts, calls, emails and beautiful cards. Each and every time you reached out to me, it helped me gather courage to continue the fight against this disease. My fight is not over, it will continue for a few more months, but I could not let this opportunity go by without letting you know how grateful I am for my church family. Blessings to each and everyone of you and your families during this Easter season.





## **EDUCATION**

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not turn from it" Proverbs 22:6

#### **Sunday School**

Submitted by Katie Sparks, Director of Children & Education Ministries

<u>Teacher Appreciation:</u> This month we celebrate and thank all of our Sunday School teachers for all that they do for our congregation. All teachers will be recognized during the service with a small gift and will have a "day off" where they will be provided a breakfast by the education department. Please take a moment to thank all of our teachers when you see them around the church!

<u>Easter Egg Hunt:</u> Thank you to all who helped make the Easter egg hunt an "egg-cellent" time for the kids! Thank you for all the candy donations, the time that was put into stuffing and hiding eggs, and a big thank you to all those that assisted with clean-up.









<u>Vacation Bible School Volunteers:</u> The education department is still searching for volunteers for VBS. Vacation Bible School will run June 23, 2019 through June 27, 2019. We need volunteers to lead groups and stations. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Katie Sparks for more information.

<u>Nursery:</u> Our nursery is in need of volunteers for both services. Volunteering in the nursery is very rewarding and a huge help to parents with small children! Volunteering in the nursery is also a great way for middle or high school students to earn service hours for school. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Katie Sparks in the education office for more information.



Holy Communion is celebrated every Wednesday evening in the Chapel from 6:15-6:30 pm

## **MUSIC & WORSHIP**

"May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life..." Psalm 128:5

#### **Music Ministries**

Submitted by Sharon Williams, Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries

As I write this newsletter article, I am still on a "music high" after a fantastic job from our chancel choir on our cantata "Portraits in Christ". A special thank you to Steve for a job well done as director. The choir spends many hours rehearsing to prepare music for a cantata as well as weekly Sunday anthems.

A special thank you to all musicians who participated in worship on Easter Sunday...our bell choir, our men's choir and our chancel choir. It was a joy for me to share another Easter with all of you.

Our choirs are beginning to look forward to taking a summer break from weekly rehearsals and participating in worship on a regular basis.

I am currently working on seeking musicians for our summer worship schedule. If anyone is interested in singing or playing a musical instrument, please contact me soon at stwilliams10@comcast.net



Many thanks to all who helped make our Lent and Easter experiences so special this year! So much goes on during this time of year and it takes dedicated people to make it happen, which we have in abundance! So thank you:

- To our fabulous musicians for the wonderful, inspiring and uplifting music you offered to us. From the Children's Choir, to the Handbell Choir, to the Men's Choir and Brass Choir and of course, the Chancel Choir a special thanks to you for all that you offered, and especially your Lenten cantata! Thanks as well go to all of the directors Susan Starrett, Paul Deemer and Steve Gilmore and to our phenomenal organist, Sharon Williams!
- To those who decorated the sanctuary for Easter (led by Anne and Paul Humphrey, and Krista Gilmore)! It was beautiful!
- To those who made worship run so smoothly by your leadership our wonderful Worship Leaders, Gospel readers, communion servers, acolytes, ushers, greeters, hospitality providers, bulletin stuffing crew, offering counters, welcome center personnel, nursery workers, tech team and our knights in shining armor in the parking lot!
- To those who fed us well the Missions team at the Maundy Thursday Soup and Bread Dinner, and Jaime and Gerry Treese at the Easter Breakfast! Yum!
- To everyone who provided a wonderful Easter Egg hunt for our children those who planned the event, all of you who contributed candy, and all who took part!

## **FINANCE & GIVING**

"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. And whatever else you do, get good judgment." Proverbs 4:7

#### **Finance News**

Submitted by Laurie Ruth, Treasurer

The financial position of EUMC Ministries Fund (operating) for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2019 is positive in the amount of \$8,858.58. This is very good; in 2018, the amount was \$5,788.29. This difference is due to several members paying their pledge for the year in January. With this being said, the income for the first three months totals \$126,944.67. The total expenses for this period is \$118,086.09. The expenses are as follows:

<ul> <li>General Expenses</li> </ul>	\$17,209.93
<ul> <li>Church Staff</li> </ul>	\$61,644.96
<ul> <li>Council on Ministries</li> </ul>	\$ 4,227.46 (Due to the Joy of Faith Weekend)
<ul> <li>Education</li> </ul>	\$ 2,319.25
<ul> <li>Youth Programs</li> </ul>	\$ 0.00
• Rental Property	\$ 884.73 (Money to pay for these expenses was transferred from the Building Fund since the income from the sale of the property was deposited into that fund)
<ul> <li>Church Utilities</li> </ul>	\$ 8,320.06
<ul> <li>Insurance</li> </ul>	\$ 4,485.93 (High because the 2nd quarter was paid before the end of March)
Church Maintenance	\$15,461.20 (Covers the copier tax, which was \$600.00, sprucing up of the upstairs bathrooms, heating issues, and replacement of a sump pump, with savings on snow removal)
<ul> <li>Parsonage Expenses</li> </ul>	\$ 3,460.92 (Includes heat pump repair)
<ul> <li>Miscellaneous</li> </ul>	\$ 71.65

Please Note - When requesting reimbursement or submitting an invoice for payment, please have the committee chairperson's approval, either by signature or an email approving the expenditure, so that record keeping is accurate.

The generosity of the congregation of EUMC is always amazing! Thank you!

#### **UMCOR SUNDAY UPDATE**

Thank you so much for your generous giving to the UMCOR Sunday offering, which supports the administrative costs of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. To date, you have given just over \$11,250! What a tremendous response! This continues our trend of being one of the leading churches in our conference in giving to help UMCOR continue its outstanding work in disaster relief! Thank you so much!



## **CHURCH NEWS**

"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. And whatever else you do, get good judgment." Proverbs 4:7

#### **From The Trustees**

Submitted by Paul Humphrey

#### **EUMC Spring Clean Out**

On Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, the church, with help from the scouts, is going to have a clean-out day. The trustees are asking <u>all</u>



committees, groups, and organizations to designate unused, unwanted, unneeded "stuff" before May 4<sup>th</sup>. Place your unwanted "stuff" in the center of the room or in the hall, label it as such, and it will be discarded. On Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a dumpster in the parking lot and, with help from the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, we will see that the unwanted "stuff" is disposed of. Make sure to label anything in the basements, storage areas, and closets that is to be saved. If no one claims ownership, it will be discarded.

#### **Refurbishing of the Steeple**

Within the next few weeks, the Atkinson Steeplejack Company will begin a long-needed steeple-refurbishing project of our church steeple. You will see a crane coming in, rigging will be hung, and repair technicians will be swinging around from the peak of our steeple. The plan is to repair, clean, seal and paint everything from the shingled roofline up. When we get an exact date for their high-flying demonstration to begin, we will publish it so everyone can bring their lawn chairs and picnic lunches to enjoy the show.

#### **Altar Flowers**

We have several dates available if you would like to provide the flowers for the altar for Sunday morning services. Those dates are:

July 21<sup>st</sup> August 4<sup>th</sup> October 6<sup>th</sup>
July 28<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> November 17<sup>th</sup>

Please contact Judy Tanner at tannerjudy31@gmail.com or the church office at 410-398-0933 if you would like to celebrate someone special or a special date with flowers for the altar.





## May Birthdays

"One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and ask to seek him in his temple." Psalm 27:4 (NIV)

5/1 5/1 5/2 5/4 5/7 5/8 5/9 5/1 5/1	Lauren Zimmer Linda White Amee McCarthy Phyllis Crabtree Amanda Fetterolf Bill Graham Richard Jones Thomas Zaleski Audrey Leathrum Denise Lee	5/15 5/16 5/17 5/17 5/18 5/18 5/18 5/19 5/19 5/20 5/21	Philip Norman Phillip Lokey Sarah Buckley Robert Cornett Hilda Frantsi Robyn Graham Alison Sprague Amanda Cornett Harold (Romie) Jones Kelly Eddinger Paul Humphrey	B	
5/1 5/1	3	5/21 5/22	Scott Shortall James Gravatt	5/27	Carlos Reyes-Rodriguez
5/1		5/22	F. Davis (Dave) Pugh	5/27	Gerald Slayman
5/1	_ *****	5/23	Grace Starrett	5/28	Robert Perkins
5/1		5/25	Connery Eddinger	5/28	John (Mikey) Sparks
5/1	Cecilia Gaultney	5/25	Marlene Gautsch	5/28	Rebecca Winkowski
5/1	Barbara Pinder	5/25	Robert Meffley	5/29	Virginia Biles
5/1	Robert Murray	5/27	Harry Barnes	5/30	Charlotte McCool
5/1	Rebecca Cebula	5/27	Carolyn McCardell	5/31	Scott Lee

## May Anniversaries

"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, all become one flesh." Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)

5/3 .	Jim &	Lynn	Decl	n

- 5/3 Donald & Pamela Stepler
- 5/8 John & Cindy Fetterolf
- 5/10 Edward & Kelley Marsilii
- 5/14 Stephen & Frances Meader
- 5/17 Brian & Deborah Ingram



- 5/17 Roger & Carol Robinson
- 5/20 Keith & Andrea McKenica
- 5/23 William (Kevin) & Linda White
- 5/24 Richard & Lea Gochnauer
- 5/26 Felix (Buddy) & Faye Camors, Jr.

If we missed your birthday or anniversary please accept our sincerest apologies and let the church office know so we can correct our information.

## May

SupunS	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			6:15 PM Communion 6:30 PM Men's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	2 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Board of Laity 8:00 PM AA Meeting	ဇာ	4 Clean Out Day
8:30 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Youth Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:15 PM New Member Class 6:00 PM Youth Group	6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Evangelism Comm Mtg	7 1:30 PM Tai Chi 2:30 PM Nursing Home Visitation (Carol Robinson's Team) 6:00 PM Dorcas Circle – Amish Farm 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Mtg.	10:30 AM Tele-Care Mtg 12:00 PM Ruth-Sarah Circle 6:15 PM Communion 6:30 PM Men's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	9 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Board of Laity 8:00 PM AA Meeting	10	11
12 Mother's Day 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Youth Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Stewardship Comm Mtg	9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Communications Comm Mtg 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Mtg.	June Newsletter June Newsletter Deadline 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	8:00 AM DCOM 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Finance Comm Mtg 7:00 PM Boy Scout Comm Mtg 8:00 PM AA Meeting	17	18
8:30 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Youth Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	5.00 PM Cub Scouts	1:30 PM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout Comm Mtg 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Mtg.	6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	23 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 8:00 PM AA Meeting	24	25
8:30 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Youth Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Mtg.	6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	Annual Conference – Wilmington 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 8:00 PM AA Meeting	31 Annual Conference - Wilmington	

#### BIBLICAL PLACES

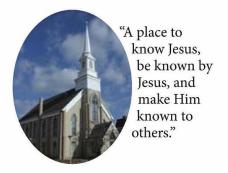
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ADIABENE
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EBLA
EDOM
ELIM
EMMAUS

ETHIOPIA
GALILEE
GOSHEN
JORDAN
JUDAH
JUDEA
MAGAN
MAMRE PLAIN
MANNEA
MOAB

MOUNT NEBO
MOUNT SINAI
MOUNT ZION
PARAN
PUNT
PUQUDU
SINAI
TABAL
TARSHISH
ZEMARAIM





Elkton United Methodist Church 219 East Main Street Elkton, MD 21921

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED** 

#### **Church Staff**

Senior Pastor	Rev. Karen F. Bunnell
Associate Pastor of Visitation	Rev. Ray Graham
Children & Education Ministries Director	Katie Sparks
Youth Ministries Director	Sandy Wherry
Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries	Sharon Williams
Adult Choir Director	Steven Gilmore
Adult Handbell Director	Paul Deemer
Youth Choir Director	Susan Starrett
Nursery Care Professional	Yolanda Gomez
Treasurer	Laurie Ruth
Secretary	Beth Gullion
SextonsSylvia Ho	onesty & Donna Horgan

## Contact Information

219 East Main Street Elkton, MD 21921 (410) 398-0933

Email: eumc@comcast.net

Web site: www.elktonumc.org

## **Church Office Hours**

Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## **Sunday Worship Services**

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday School (all ages)** 

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

**Youth Fellowship** 

Sunday Evenings 6:00 p.m.

### **Elkton UMC Welcome Statement**

The Elkton United Methodist Church is a family of God dedicated to worshiping, learning, and serving our immediate community and beyond as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church, we stand fully behind the statement, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors." Building on our tradition and the welcoming of those who have come before, we celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality or physical or mental ability into full participation as children of God in the life of this community of faith.